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June 28, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow  
Executive Director,  
CalFed Bay/Delta Program  
1416 Ninth St. Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: State Clearinghouse Number 96032083- Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report, CalFed Bay/Delta Program**

Dear Lester:

Enclosed are CAFF's comments on the CalFed Draft EIR/EIS. At this time we are unable to evaluate and comment specifically on a preferred alternative or structural implementation because of the tremendous complexity of the issues to be addressed, the short period of time in which to evaluate a very large volume of information, and the vagueness and contingency of the possible alternative configurations in the current Draft. For these reasons, and because a preferred alternative is due next year and a new Draft EIR/EIS will be issued, we are submitting general comments that focus on parts of the program that have been of special concern for CAFF thus far. We hope they will provide some assistance in preparing the final Draft EIR/EIS which will include a preferred alternative.

We were very pleased by the agreement reached by Governor Wilson and Interior Secretary Babbitt both to identify a preferred alternative by next year. We also support implementation of CalFed through an approach that will allow evaluation of the efficacy of non-structural solutions first, as long as active involvement by the public in the decision-making process continues. We look forward to continued participation in CalFed as a preferred alternative is developed, which we hope will give the public a clearer sense of the options CalFed is considering. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding our comments.

Sincerely,

MA *Judith Redmond*  
Judith Redmond  
CAFF Executive Director

*Adrienne Alvord*  
Adrienne Alvord  
CAFF Policy Coordinator